



Jobs for Montana's Graduates

"Brighten Your Future with JMG"

Newsletter

May 2008

The 18th Annual JMG Career Development Conference

This year's JMG Career Development Conference held May 6th & 7th at the Billings Hotel & Convention Center brought in over 400 students, career specialists, judges, workshop presenters and special guests to the event. Thirty JMG High Schools from throughout Montana were in attendance.

Coordinated Chaos kick started the conference. Students were divided into 32 teams each team being assigned a team color (Red, Blue, Green, or Yellow). Students competed at 8 different stations with only minutes to complete each station's task. Station activities included; Wordles, Charades, Human Scavenger Hunt, Worst Case Scenario, JMG Business Challenge, Landing the Perfect Job, Climbing Wall, and an Obstacle Course.



This opening activity was a great ice breaker and provided students the opportunity to meet and mingle with students from different schools.

Students faced the challenges presented to them and successfully

worked together as a team to complete each task. Kudos to the students for doing such a great job!



A big **THANK YOU** goes out to all our JMG Career Specialists who participated as station team assistants and who made Coordinated Chaos a huge success.



Winning JMG Banner Designs



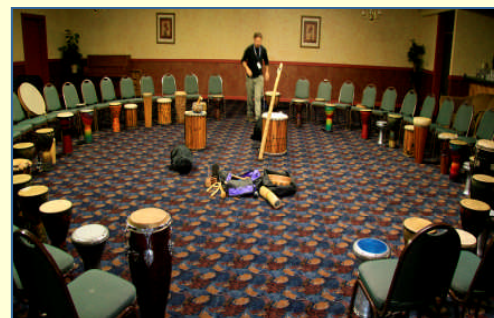
Fabric/Paper



Wood/Metal

Students "wowed" by **WORKSHOPS!**

Conference attendees were provided an opportunity to hear from a diverse group of workshop presenters. Each workshop presented a unique insight into a specific career interest area. Jewell-Taylor Zweegman, a business owner and entrepreneur presented a workshop titled; *Type A Personality Journey*. Jewell shared her journey as well as the pros and cons of her choices made during that journey. Next door we had Chet Leach, owner of Rhythms Drum & Dance Store in Bozeman. The workshop, titled *"Finding our Inner Rhythm; Finding our Passion,"* engaged students in a hands-on drumming session and discussion of finding passion and joy in our careers. *GIS What is it?* was an informative workshop with GIS technicians Ken Bixby & Matt Lopez who shared information on the GIS technology and how it is used in the workplace. Our fourth and final workshop was with anchor Katie Ussin of KULR 8 TV. Katie, a native of Montana, shared with students her firsthand knowledge of a career in broadcasting.



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Geyser High School's JMG Class Competes in Their Very Own Amazing Race



On March 19th, 2008 Geyser's seniors competed in their own "Amazing Race". Similar to the TV Reality Series *Amazing Race*, students had places to go, people to see and things to accomplish. It all started when Career Specialist, Seely Daniels, received her first Leadership magazine as the new JMG Teacher for Geyser HS. In the magazine was an article about senior survivor week. She thought it would be interesting to come up with a senior amazing race; where her JMG class would have a chance to use what they had learned throughout the year. She started the project by setting goals and a deadline of when and where she would like the race to take place. She passed it by the Superintendent and staff at Geyser to get a feel for what the reactions would be and all was positive. She set the date for March 19th, and had a lot to accomplish before that time.



Seely's task list included; preparing students for filling out job applications, appropriate attire for a job interview, completing college applications, reading road maps and using public transportation; she

also had to find businesses and colleges that would climb on board and participate for the benefit of her JMG seniors. Seely contacted businesses in Great Falls, since that was the closest town with a larger population than Geyser's 150, give or take. Many of the businesses that she encountered were more than willing to help out and very positive. Career Quest was on board for job interviews and looking over job applications; Great Falls Job Service for typing, data entry, 10-key tests and interviews; Great Falls Pre-Release Transition Center to give students an idea of how making the wrong decisions would affect them; MSU Great Falls and Great Falls COT on board for campus visits, scavenger hunts, financial aid information and professor visits. Seely was amazed that all it took was a call to the businesses and colleges to see if they would be interested in participating and they took off running with the idea; arranging interviews, getting students to give tours, staff to answer questions, packets of job interview and application do's and don'ts, making participant packets with pencils, iPod covers, backpacks, Frisbees and wonderful incentives. They were simply AMAZING!

Once the businesses and colleges were on board she needed to figure out transportation and timing. Being the organized somewhat OCD person that she is; she worked everything down to the last minute of when students needed to be done with one place so they could catch the bus to the next location. Seely worked out scenarios so that she would have an idea of what if's and if not's. Great Falls public transit station was contacted. They were wonderful in helping locate different places along their travel routes where students could get additional information and educational experiences for "detours" and "road blocks". They sent each student a bus route map and times so that they could go over how to read and interpret the information ahead of time; as well as all day bus passes so that students could ride the busses all day long for one rate.



After coordinating all of this, Seely needed to come up with different obstacles for the students, determine what teams they were on, the routes they were taking so no two teams were at the same place at the same time, and chaperones for each team. Obstacles that were set up were: Road blocks in which teams could send other teams after objects; Detours, where teams could send other teams to different locations; Cautions, where both team members had to complete the objective; and U-turns, where teams could make both team members of another team complete the objective. Each team was comprised of two team members and a chaperone (the joy of only having 8 seniors in the class). Each team had to take public transportation to each location and complete the obstacle they were given by a different team before they could complete the next leg of the race.

Seniors came away from the race knowing how they ranked on typing, data entry and 10 key tests, knowing more about how to fill out various applications, receiving feedback on interviews and what they could do to improve and what they did well on; knowing more about college life and what was expected and knowing what was out there for them if they strayed along the wrong path.

Seely stated that the joyful part of this is that teams knew who they were before hand and had already decided on how they were going to "compete" against others and what effort they were going to put forth; to some it was a very competitive thing, for others not so much but ended up being "dog eat dog" at the end of the day. All in all Geyser's 1st Senior Amazing Race, was an incredible success and a lot of fun for all of those who participated.



Competitive Events

Competition	First	Second	Third
Chapter Banner Fabric & Paper	Havre HS	Helena PAL	Fromberg High
Chapter Banner-Metal & Wood	Plains High	Cascade High	Culbertson High

Chapter Manual	Helena PAL Project for Alt Learning	Culbertson High	Butte High
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Civic Activities Chapter	Plains High	Helena High	Butte High
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Civic Activities Individual	Leah Swedberg	Katie Nettleton	Lander Jewett
	Plains High	Helena Capital	Helena High

Critical Thinking Skills Grade 12	Kathryn Barsotti	Finale Ayers	Britney Burmeister
	Granite High	Helena PAL	Whitehall High

Decision Making Grade 10	Shay Layton	Kyla Lanegan	Jackie Walter
	Helena Capital	Whitefish Independent	Judith Gap High

Decision Making Grade 11	Shelby King	Samantha Root	Linda Gleason
	Helena High	Butte High	Billings Career Center

Electronic Presentation	Candice Kerr	Owen Gunderson	Kelsey Delaney
	Helena High	Helena PAL	Plains High

Employment Preparation	Ashton Vuller	Tie Kirstie Mc Donald-Geyser	Tara Baker
	Plains High	Tie *Kathryn Barsotti-Granite	Plains High

Career Exploratory Notebook Grade 10	Clarrisa Tighe	Jamilyn Werner	
	Helena PAL	Powell County High	

Career Exploratory Notebook Grade 11	Samantha Root	Nicole Mech	Mel Marker
	Butte High	Helena PAL	Powell County High

Career Exploratory Notebook Grade 12	Ryan Ulmen	Kim Scholler	Kirstie McDonald
	Havre High	Butte High	Geyser High

Life Skills Math Grade10-11	Brandon Puckett	Dylan Solberg	(tie) Richard Knowlton-Poplar
	Libby Central High	Scobey High	Sang A Seo-Culbertson

Life Skills Math Grade 12	Quinlan Johnson	Jeremy Flugge	Tiffany De Vries
	Geyser High	Cascade High	Nashua High

Competitive Events

Competition	First	Second	Third
Poster Slogan Grade 10	Alyssa Stevens	Tyson LaTray	Tori Christman
	Helena Capital High	North Star, Rudyard	Bridger High

Poster Slogan Grade 11	Kaycee Menz	Gabrielle Thomas	Courtney Smith
	Culbertson High	Libby Central Pride	Helena PAL

Poster Slogan Grade 12	Cody Hultberg	Leigh Spotted Bird	Ashton Vulles
	Judith Gap High	Brockton High	Plains High

Public Speaking Grade 10-11	Brittanne Amos	Johnna Lea	Darold Starks
	Libby Central Pride	Judith Gap High	Nashua High

Public Speaking Grade 12	Melody Earhart	Carly Stone	Ashley Kirby
	Plains High	Geyser High	Powell County High

Talent (Group)	Plains High	Nashua High	
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Talent (Individual)	Bailee Vaughn	Jake Houtari	Jared Standing
	Bridger High	Helena High	Poplar High

Telephone Techniques Grade 11	Kathryn Barsotti Granite High	Cordareo Clampitt Billings Career Center	Kiersten Floerchinger-Helena Jesse Weinacker-Helena Olivia Benke-Smith -Libby (3-way tie)
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Telephone Techniques Grade 12	Alysha Cherney	Carla Scott	Justin Allison
	Nashua High	Brockton High	Plains High

Webpage Design	Glasgow High	Cascade High	Helena High
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Words in the Workplace Grade 11	Chase Buer	TeAra Bilbruck	Tanis Hartford
	Scobey High	Glasgow High	Whitehall High

Words in the Workplace Grade 12	Alysha Cherney	Carla Scott	Justin Allison
	Nashua High	Brockton High	Plains High

\$500.00 Scholarship Recipients

Melody Earhart -Plains HS
Kathryn Barsotti—Granite HS
Marisa Braaten—Nashua HS
Ashton Vulles-Plains HS
Tawney Lee Rogers—Dutton/Brady

Each year the Student Assistance Foundation (SAF) provides a grant to the JMG Foundation. The Foundation awards scholarships to those students who will be continuing on in post-secondary education. JMG is fortunate to have such a partnership with SAF and congratulates this year's recipients.

\$250.00 Scholarship Recipients

Leah Swedberg—Plains HS
Carla Scott—Brockton HS

Congratulations to all Winners!

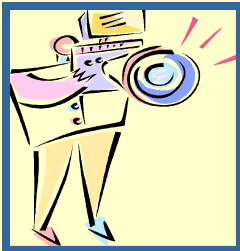
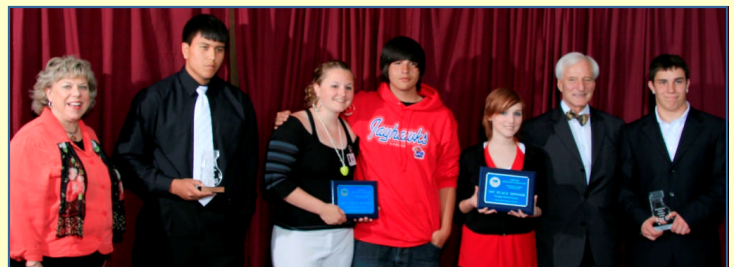


PHOTO
ALBUM
OF
COMPETITIVE
EVENTS





**More
Winning
Photos**



TALENT



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Lucille Thomason Editor

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